# FOR PRESIDENT, HENRY CLAY,

To General Committee of Democratic
Whig Young Men, for 1843.—A Regular meeting of this Committee, will be held at the Broadway House on Friday Evening, the 3d of February, at 74 o'clock.

By order.
CHARLES K. TAYLOR,
JAMES B. SWAIN,
Secretaries.

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To For a Notice of the Democratic, with a Review of its argument against International Copyright, with a review of Brownson on Social Science, and Notices of the Boston Mis cellany, Eclectic, Blackwood, Dublin University Magazine,

For Euthanasia, an original Poem, see Last Page.

IT All persons Laving books belonging to the Editor of The Tritune are earnestly requested to return them to him at once. The absence of several which he needs compels him to make this request. Whoever has a copy of the U. S. Census for 1840 in folio is especially requested to return it

We shall publish in to-morrow's Tribune a full and important REPORT OF WILLIAM L. STONE, SUPERINTENDENT, ON THE COMMON SCHOOLS OF NEW-YORK CITY, their Origin, History, Results. Wants, Dangers, and Actual Condition. The friends of the Public School System will find this document a powerful and effective weapon against the School Law of last winter and in favor of the former system, while the facts it embodies wil render it of deep interest to all. We think the friends of the Public School Society will thank us fer giving place to this instead of the anonymous assaults on the new Law we have been importuned to publish; while we proffer to those who may feel aggrieved by its statements an opportunity to reply with equal directness and good temper. Extra copies will be printed for sale at our usual

#### New-York and Virginia.

The Albany Argus endeavors to cast blame or Gov. SEWARD for the present controversy between this State and Virginia, on the assumption that he went out of his way to get into it. The Arguurges that he might have refused to surrender the three New-Yorkers claimed, solely on the ground of the insufficiency of the affidavits against them, or on some other special ground, and so have escaped the present contoversy altogether.

It strikes us that the course thus recommended by the Argus would have been at once unworthy the dignity of our State and perilous to the liberties of her citizens. Gov. Seward did expressly state the grounds of objection to giving up Gansey and others suggested by that paper: had he stopped here, would be not virtually have surrendered the grounds now in controversy? If, the next month, a case had arisen involving the principles now controverted but not affording the means of escape preferred by the Argus, another requisition being made, the Governor would now be driven to the freeman's ground, that aiding, or rather acquiescing in, the escape of a slave from bondage did not constitute the crime of stealing, according to Northern principles. "Ah! but," says the Governor of Virginia, "that won't answer! You never thought of that excuse in the other case-never hinted 'your belief in its validity. You virtually conceded that if one of your citizens had countenanced 'a slave's effort for freedom, it was your duty to surrender him for a term in our State Prison .-' Now you trump up new pretexts to suit the neces 'sities of your case, plainly showing that you are wrong in every case, and not only wrong but con-

There was just one honest and manly way to act in the premises, and that way Gov. Seward acted, in saying, "Sir, your case is not made out; but to avoid future misapprehension, I mu t say that, 'if it were, I could not surrender the citizens of 'New-York you claim. I cannot concede that b Governor of New-York is bound to surrender her 'citizens to a Virginia State Prison on a charge of 'aiding a slave's escape from bondage." A more equivocal course would have been more characteristic of the Argus but less befitting Gov. Seward.

# Corporation Contracts.

An incident occurred in the Board of Aldermen en Wednesday evening, which completely unmasks the \$20,000 bid for Cleaning the Streets .-A Loco-Foco named Forney had built a well for the City by contract, putting in his bid (below others) at \$12 per foot for digging it through a rock. Having finished the work, and (as he claims) made a poor job of it, he comes into the Council with a petition for Extra Compensation on the express ground that he had bid lower than the work could be done! Alderman Purdy vigorously pressed his claim, and, as it seemed like y not to pass, meanly observed that "the poor laborer had no chance here now!" Is not this detestable ?-If the 'poor laborer' had been able to dig the well for \$6 per foot would be not have demanded and received every cent of \$12? Then with what justice does he ask to be paid more than that sum ?

We begin to think the City has saved money by net giving the Street-Sweeping to the Loco-Foce low bidder at \$25,000 per annum. With Ald. Purdy to lead a Loco-Foco Council the Sweeping would have cost more under that Contract than the one which has been made. The principle contended for by him turns all contracting into a farce or a cheat, and gives the jobs always to the most reckless, who is generally the least competent, and who, under a pretence of working cheapest, would really charge the City more than a capable and fair-dealing man.

COMMANDER MACKENZIE.-We copied a para graph yesterday from the Boston Post stating positively that Com. DALLAS, one of the members of the Court of Inquiry into the circumstances of the Somers Mutiny, dissented from the report of the Court justifying the conduct of Commander Mac-KENZIE. We understand from a source which we cannot question, that this is entirely a mistake The decision was unanimous, and very decided in its approval of the Commander's course. In the trial by the Court Marshal, now in session, Capt MACKENZIE is to be aided in his defence by GEO. GRIFFIN and JOHN DUER, Esqs., of this city, two of the ablest counsel whom he could possibly have found. It will be noticed in our report of to-day's proceedings that the Judge Advocate stated that he was expecting the aid of a an older counsel We understand that he is to be assisted by BENJA MIN F. BUTLER and CHARLES O'CONNOR, Esqs. of this city, who were retained for this purpose by Hon. JOHN C. SPENCER, Secretary at War.

THE DEBATE ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT at the Tabernacle will be concluded This Evening by Rev. GRORGE B. CHEEVER in favor of such Punishment, and by Mr. O'SULLIVAN for its abolition. We need not add that it will be richly worth hearing. Admittance 121 cents. See Card

TO ROBERT MERRY'S MUSEUM for February, s published by Bradbury, Soden & Co.

The Copyright Question.

CORNELIUS MATHEWS, Esq. delivered a very ound and able Lecture last evening at the rooms of the Society Library upon the better Literary Interests of this country in connection with an International Copyright. It was evidently the result of mature consideration and settled conviction .-He spoke chiefly with reference to the moral justice, the Right of such an arrangement, and in refutation of the sophistry of those who, under the hallow plea that Genius cannot be made the subject of property, proceed to pirate and live upon its products-showing thus that if it may not be owned, it can at least be stolen. The inevitable degradation into which the existing system plunges our own Literature, stifling beneath the trask poured daily forth by the British Press, and as instantly reproduced by our own, all of beauty and worth that grows up among ourselves and destroying every thing like manly and careful thought, independent criticism and intellectual strength in the Literary productions of our land, was delineated with evident truth and effective vigor. He hit off with humor and graphic skill the process by which books from abroad are now hurried through the press and sent to the farthest portions of the country, without examination or the slightest forethought as to what they may contain. The strife of publishers, bitterly quarreling among themselves for the profits of a book whose author they have left to starve while they fight over his pilfered property, was admirably depicted; and the disgrace hey bring upon our character, and the deadly effects of the poison thus heedlessly infused throughout the reading class, were well portrayed. Mr. MATHEWS defined pointedly and well the benefits to American Literature for which we might hopefully look to the passage of a Copyright Law, the dignity and purity it would induce, the honor and reward it would bestow upon authors, and the many incidental benefits which, though unforeseen, would be certain to result. We could not share the fears of Mr. MATHEWS,

lest the monarchical opinions of British writers, freely and heedlessly introduced into this country as they are under the existing system, should presently prove dangerous to our liberties and instituions; for there is an instinct of Republicanism among our people which throws off all danger of such effects. We do not believe that such sentiments have any influence upon American readers. not one particle more, to say the least, than is needed to keep in healthful check the anarchial tendencies which always exist in a Republic. The Conservatism of Alison's Europe, will do no harm and may do much good among American readers. These considerations, however, do not weigh a feather against the Right and Expediency of an International Copyright regulation; and we trust that the Legislators of our country, having already acknowledged the principle involved, will act nobly and promptly in accordance with it. Mr. MATHEWS has done much to give public opinion the right direction in the matter, and we believe that his exertions, with those who have labored with him, have already done much to effect the de-

DR. DE WITT's Lecture before the Lyceum on Wednesday evening was a well written but not comprehensive sketch of the first settlement and condition of the New Netherlands under the first three Dutch Governors, Van Twiller, Keith, and Stuyvesant, better known, from the veritable historian Knickerbocker, as Walter the Doubter, William the Testy and Peter the Headstrong. The Doctor evidently had the subject entirely at his mand, and might have communicated many new and interesting facts in relation to our worthy Dutch ancestors, but he covered too much ground for one lecture, and consequently was obliged to be too statistical and figurative to interest a popular audience. The Dr. has evidently an enthusiastic admiration for old Dutch virtues, and wishes they were more often engrafted on the characters of this ater, steamboat and railroad age. He thinks for nstance that a hotel with a Yankee landlord and a Dutch landlady the perfection of traveling comfort. The one at the door to receive the guest and he other the presiding genius of roast and boiled in the kitchen form a combination to give the guest assurance of a good house. The Doctor defended the memory of Peter Stuyvesant from the malicious slanders of Diederick Knickerbocker, and declared that what that historian calls obstinacy, was in fact firmness: grounded on strong and cogent reasons and full consideration. He is believed to have been a man of warm piety, and paid from his own purse a portion of the salary of the clergyman who officiated in the Chapel he built on the spot where now stands Saint Mark's Church.

Dr. DeWitt also gave a high and deserved eulogium to the memory of the late Patroon, Stephen Van Rensselaer, as a man of ealightened views, extending a paternal protection over his tenantry, whom he had the power to oppress, and who, by his religious walk and conversation, proved himself not one of Nature's Noblemen, but one of God's noblemen. The audience warmly responded to the remarks upon the charater of the Patroon.

The Doctor closed with a humorous parallel between the habits and opinions of the worthy burgher of New-Amsterdam and the New-Yorker of the present day. In the olden time, said the Doctor, the bed was deserted at sunrise in the winter, and still earlier in summer, and then all to work during the day.

In the afternoon the Dutch dames were seen with their knitting going from door to door visiting their neighbors. Before dark the tea was ready-not sweetened with scandal-and in the evening all were at home enjoying fireside delights; or the worthy husbands were sitting about on the stoops discussing the topics of the day, or gathered around the domestic hearth, and at nine o'clock past meridian every honest man it was thought should be in bed. The Dutch belles, said the Doctor, did not perhaps spin so much street varn as their modern sisters, but they spun more flax and hemp, and their stores of family linen were the dowries they brought their betrothed. If houses, said the Doctor, stood with unseemly gables projecting on the street, she was within who made that house a hapby and cheerful home, and whose virtues, homely as they were, filled the house with an atmosphere of happiness.

The Tabernacle was well filled, and had Dr. De Witt confined himself to less range of subject, it would have been one of the most popular lectures

A. C. BULLITT of the New-Orleans Bee, one of the staunchest and ablest Whig papers in the Union, has been elected State Printer by the Louisiana Legislature. A better appointment could not have possibly been made. He received 37 out of 70 votes-his opponents being Rust & Besancon of the Herald.

The steamer Caledonia left Boston for Liv erpool yesterday at 10 A. M. She was detained one day on account of the weather.

Matters in Albany-No. I. Correspondence of The New-York Tribune

ALBANY, Feb. 1, 1843. "There is a time to laugh," says the wise man; and surely, were you now in Albany, you would say that Solomon was not far out of the way. The bickerings between the Conservatives and the Destructives, as the two branches of the great ' Democratic' party are designated, are amusing. Their efforts to appear cordial toward each other in public, remind one forcibly of the extra politeness of the brigand who humbly begged pardon of his victim at the very moment he blew out his brains. You will see rare sport before the Session closes. The volcane, which only faintly rumbled during the State Printing excitement, will exhibit an unequivocal eruption before many days, er I am grossly mistaken. As an illustration of the friendly feeling between the two contending factions, I will give you a love-passage between an humble adherent of each. You are probably aware that the forty who voted in caucus for Wm. C. Bryant, immediately received the appellation of the ' Forty Thieves.' One of these forty was railing soundly, the next morning, at the treachery of the Croswell branch of the party, yclept 'The Conservatives.' One of the latter, rather nettled at the pointed remark of one of the 'Forty,' interrupted him with the abrupt query-"Are you one of the Forty Thieves?" "Yes," retorted the other; "and I had rather be a thief, any time, than a Conser-

You cannot but have observed the strong ground which Senator DICKINSON has taken in relation to certain acts of the Governor while Canal Commissioner. What will be the result, I am unable to say. Dickinson is very confident of his ability fully to sustain his charge, and the unusual fluttering of the Bouckites in the Senate is rather ominous that they fear the result of a fair and searching inquiry. The resolution to withdraw an inquiry into certain acts of Bouck, which had been sent to the Canal Commissioners, was adopted by a very slim vote. It was a subject of general remark, that just as the vote was to be taken, the 'Flagg' Senators-or 'Barn-burners,' as Dickinson calls them-shot the pit. That was a curious move.

We have the advantage in the Assembly. The Loco-Foces miss the tap of Admiral HOFFMAN'S drum. Such penny whistles as McMurray. HATHAWAY, and even your learned jurist, JONES, have not the stamina to lead such a curious mass of heteregeneous Loco-Focoism as is found in the majority in that House. 'OLD ENOCH,' of Monree, can lish these minor satellites into a proper fury at any moment. WILLIS HALL is a host. They fear him; and well they may. They find in him a giant that can rend asunder their miserable sophistries almost without an effort. His speech vesterday on the Virginia question has carried consternation into their ranks. It cannot be answered, although HATHAWAY did give notice of his intention to uncork his small beer bottle in reply. The efforts of the Loco-Focos in the Assembly to manage HALL, remind one strongly of the Herculean attempts of the Lilliputians to make a prisoner of

Of office-seekers-their name is legion. They swarm around the 'Old White Horse' like the locusts of Egypt. Like those locusts, the fate of too many will be, to be cast into the Red Sea of dis-appointment. The Tammany Hall grog-bruisers look blue at the tee-total proclamation of His Excellency. Can't some of your Washingtonians send up some ex post facto recommendations? They would bring any price.

Mr. FAULKNER's bill for aid to the N. Y. and Erie Railroad came up in the Senate to-day. Mr. State work. No question was taken. CHAMBER-LAIN, the new Loco-Foco Senator from the Sixth District, avowed his determination to support the amendment. FAULANER showed the white feather.

The Senate went into Executive Session to-day. Contrary to the general expectation, it is rumored that no New-York nominations have as yet been made. What will become of those poor fellows whose pockets already begin to give back an empty sound? They must 'hold up,' unless a special Executive Message is transmitted.

Yours, New-Fort Legislature.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 1. In SENATE, bills upon the following subjects

were read a third time and passed: Concerning the Contributionship Fire Insurance

Company in the City of New-York; The Equitable Insurance Company;

The Firemen's Insurance Company;

The Howard Insurance Company;

The Hudson Fire Insurance Company; The Guardian Insurance Company;

The Ætna Insurance Company;

The North River Insurance Company:

The Trust Fire Insurance Company; To enable resident aliens to hold and convey real

The New-York and Erie Railroad bill then coming up, Mr. PLATT, with a view to elicit the true sentiments of Senators concerning it, moved to make it a State Work. Mr. FAULKNER declared that this could not be done, and after a brief debate upon the point, the Senate went into Executive Session, and soon after adjourned.

In the ASSEMBLY, Mr. STRONG reported against the petitions to extend the time for collecting taxes beyond March 1st, and the House agreed with the report. A concurrent resolution to elect a U. S. Senator on the 7th inst. was adopted. Mr. WHEEL-ER laid on the table a bill instructing our Representatives in Congress to do all they can to relieve Amos Kendall. The House, after discussing the Governor's Message for some time, adjourned.

IF W. E. ROBINSON, E-q. will deliver his last Lecture in our City This Evening at Concert Hall, 406 Broadway. Subject, 'THE ANCIENT IRISH.' His former Lectures have been warmly approved, especially by Irishmen.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM .- Mr. La Roy Sunderland lectures this evening, before the Mechanics' Institute. See advertisement.

THE HEALTH JOURNAL AND INDEPEN-DENT MAGAZINE, (of which we gave the Prospectus some weeks since,) Vol. I. No. 1, for February, has just been issued by Joseph A. Whitmarsh. Boston. It is emphatically devoted to the Free discussion of all topics connected with the Moral, Intellectual and Physical well-being of Man, in a spirit of blended fearlessness and love. The laws of Health, the problem of Industrial Association, the Right of every Human Being to Freedom of Thought and Opinion, will be especially regarded. It is ably and truthfully edited, (in good part by a lady,) and neatly printed. A few copies are for sale at this office. Price 184 cents.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR. By and with the advice and consent of the Senate. OTSEGO COUNTY.-Hiram Kinne and James C. Walworth adges of the County Courts—re-appointments.

Jabez D. Hammond, Judge, vice Seth Chase—term ex wells S. Hammond, Examiner in Chancery, vice Dewit

C. Bates-term expires 28th Feb., 1345.

Governors of the States-FESURARY, 1843. Governors. Salary. Term exp.

John Fairfield.....\$1,500 Jan. '44

Hanry 'Habhard...... 1,200 June, '43 Heary Habbard ..... 1,290 Marcus Morton ..... 3,6664 Rhode Island....\*Samuel W. King..... 400
Connecticut..... Channeey F. Cleveland 1,100 Francis Thomas..... 3.535 North Carolina. John M. Morchead. 2,000
South Carolina. James H. Hammond. 3,500
Georgia. Charles J. McDonald. 3 000 Berjamin Fitzpatick.. 3,500 Tilgiman M. Tucker.. 3,000 Louisiana ..... Alexander Mouton ..... Wilson Shannon..... 1, 90 \*Ropert P. Letcher ..... ndiana ..... Samuel Bigger ..... Thomas Ford.....

een elected for a full term of three years, or only for the nexpired portion of the regular term, which closes in March next

Governors of Territories.

Wisconsin...James D. Doty, Salaries \$2,000 each; apIowa....John Chambers, pointed by the President
Florida...Robert K. Call, I and removable at pleasure

John S. Barry .....

Whigs 3. The rest Loco Focos of various shades-13.

t We are not certain whether Gov. McDowell has recently

rkansas.....

Thomas H. Reynolds. 2 000

### Mr. Jesse Hoyt's Sub-Treasury.

BALANCE ON HAND, \$226,295 31. By the following efficial letter from Hon. C. B. Penrose, Solicitor of the Treasury, it appears that Mr. Jesse Hoyt, ex-Collector of this Port, is indebted to the United States in the snug sum of \$226,295 31, and bids fair to continue in that interesting predicament, as Mr. Heffman has not yet been able to bring him to trial-the case being put off from term to term on Mr. Hoyt's affidavits of the absence (at Philadelphia!) of a material witness. The Solicitor of the Treasury responds to an inquiry of Congress as follows:

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE TREASURY, } January 7, 1843. }
Sin: I have received the resolution of the House of Representatives, "That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to communicate to this House he amount of the defalcation of Jesse Hoyt, late Collector of the Port of New-York, and also what means, if any, have been adopted for the recovery of the same, together with the names of the sureties of said Hoyt," and, in reply, have the honor to state, that it appears that Jesse Hoyt executed three bonds to the United States during the period he continued in office: the first on the 22d March, 1838, in the penalty of \$150,000, with Robert McJimsey, Lewis M. Thurston, Lorenzo Hoyt, Jesse Oakley, Thomas J. Oakley, and Samuel Jones, sureties; the second on 20th November, 1838, in the increased penalty of \$200,000, with the same sureties as on the first oonds-this bond superseded the first; the third on 14th December, 1339, in the penalty of \$200,000, with Thaddeus Phelps, surety. This bond was re-quired in addition to the preceding one. Copies of hese several bonds are herewith enclosed.

The amount of the defalcation of Mr. Hoyt, as ate Collector of the Port of New-York, appears, rom the adjustment of his accounts by the Auditor and Comptroller of the Treasury, to be \$226,295, 31. Of this amount, it appears that \$10,247 24 accrued previous to the execution of the boad of 14th December, 1239, and suit has been instituted n the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New-York against Mr. Hoyt and his sureties to his second band, dated 30th November, 1838. For the remainder, \$216,048 07, suit has been instituted in the same court against Mr. Hoyt and the sureties on the same bond, and also the surety on the bond of 14th December, 1839. These proceedings were commenced on the 20th February and 9th of April, 1841, and the suits have been entinued from term to term, at the instance of the defendants. The District Attorney, in his reports of proceedings at November term, 1842, which ended on the 19th ultimo, states that "these suits were put off for the term, upon the defendant's application, and an affidavit of Jesse Hoyt, setting orth that, since access had been allowed him to papers in the custom house, his chief clerk had been constantly at Philadelphia, as a witness on the part

of the United States in certain seizure cases. In addition to the suits above mentioned, measares have been taken to cause the distributive share of Jesse Hoyt, as late Collector, of the preceeds of certain goods seized by his direction at New-York, Philadelphia and Baltimere, for violations of the revenue laws, and recently condemned as forfeited, to be applied in payment of his debt to the United States. What this share will amount e it is impossible yet to ascertain, the marshal not having completed the sales. It will, however, be considerable, the marshal having already reported sales to the amount of near \$100,000. The right so to apply this fund is controverted by persons claiming it under a deed of trust for the indemnity of his sureties on his official bonds; but as the object of the trust is indirectly to accomplish the same thing, it is supposed that the application of this fund to the payment of the debt due to the Government will ultimately be effected.

With great respect, your obedient servant, CHARLES B. PENROSE.

We trust after this there will be no cavil as to the safe-keeping of the Public Money under the Sub-Treasury system. Mr. Hoyt has contrived to keep about a quarter of a million dollars not only as long as he was officially required to do it, but some two years longer, and he holds on to it still like grim Death. This, in addition to some \$50,000 per annum which Mr. Hoyt was enabled to pocket as salary, perquisites, seizures, &c., during his Collectorship, makes a very nice little aggregate. We know several patriots who would not object to serve their Country on similar terms.

FIRES .- The dwelling-house of H. W. Scovill at Lockport, caught fire on Tuesday week, about 10 o'clock, A. M. It was extinguished before it had made much progress. Loss about \$150.

A fire was discovered about 3 o'clock Tuesday norning in the large and extensivo four story building Nos. 32 and 34 Blackstone-street, at Boston, occupied by Dean & Pratt, wholesale grocers the furniture warehouses of Charles F. Parker and Bowen & Manning, all of which were damaged to a considerable amount. Loss about \$6,000; partly insured.

The shoemaker's shop of Mr. Joel Bates, No. 9 Howard-street, adjoining the Miller Temple, at Boston, was set on fire about 10 c'clock Tuesday night, but the fire was extinguished before a great deal of damage was done.

A dwelling owned and in part occupied by Jacob Wrattan, in Utica, and also a small dwelling owned by Mr. Hall, were burnt down on Tuesday night. Contents mostly saved, Loss \$1,000.

The dwelling and barn of Chauncey Burr, as Durham, Ct. were burned on the 23d. Insured The large cotton pickery belonging to Dr. Bur

houser, Mobile, was destroyed by fire on the 18th

together with 75 bales of cotton. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. Loss estimated at \$4.000. TRIAL OF CAPT. MACKENZIE. - The Testimony and Doc ments produced before the Court of Inquiry will constitate the principal part of the evidence before the present

Court Martial. The whole of this Testimony, with the ac companying Documents, are printed in a Pamphlet, and for sale at this office. Price 12; ceats. In order fully to understand the proceedings of the Court Martial from day to day, will be necessary to have reference to the Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry. Copies may still be obtained. IT Persons wishing The Tribune left at their residen

es or places of business in the city at an early hour in the norning, will please leave their names, or send them in by lote through the Post Office, at the publication office, 180 Nassan-street, opposite the Park. TERMS, nine cents a week, to be paid to the Carrier. TT The attention of capitalists is called to the advertise ment of Nassan-street property for sale.

By We are overwhelmed with articles in rela- Naval Court Martial on board the U. z. tion to the rival plans for building a Naval Dry Dock, and can only publish them very sparingly, as the mass of our readers must take very little interest in the subject. We have published such articles as seemed calculated to shed light on the merits and advantages of the rival Floating Docks, and with that view give place to the one below, while we have declined to print the letter from Washington of our friend 'Spectator,' because it does not seem calculated to add any thing to the information on the subject already in the possession of our readers. It states, indeed, that the opinion of influential men at Washington is entirely favorable to the Balance Dock, and that the Committees of Congress will so report ;-all which we repeat without disputing. Our own observation, however, has led us to the conclusion, not hastily adopted, that, while each plan of Dock has its merits, the Sectional is the better adapted to the rigantic size required for a Naval Dock. We give this, with great distrust of our own f tness to judge in the premises, simply as our reason for declining o print 'Spectator's' opinions, which can hardly be founded on better evidence than our own. But the question is one to be decided by Naval Constructors, Shipwrights, &c. The writer of the following is one:

#### Sectional Floating Dock.

To the Editor of The Tribune: Your articles upon the "Sectional Dock" remind me of a visit that I lately made, tempted by curiosity alone, for the purpose of examining the novel method of raising our largest merchant ships, by the instrumentality of buoyant boxes .-The effect of the operation none can witness without feeling gratified, and interested in the success of those who have so advantageously put in practice a theory in mechanics, both novel and impor-

tant in its present application. I have no interest whatever in the Sectiona Dock, or in its results, further than what every citizen should feel in the successful adaptation of new principles, or the new adaptation of old principles, in mechanism, tending to public benefit.

I saw a vessel of more than 1000 tons quietly glide over the invisible tanks-which you have so faithfully described-and elevated high and dry to receive the repairs that several years' service had rendered necessary. The small steam engines occupying the second platform of the frame, that doomed up on either side of the ship, were set in motion. The contents of the sunken reservoirs commenced gushing forth in powerful streams from each, until a bearing was obtained upon the vessel's keel, to the form of which the flexible truck work most admirably adapted itself. The shores or props were then extended, reaching from the side-frames to the vessel's side, to resist the late ral pressure, and to secure her in the same position as when in the water.

The level being applied to the ship's deck, told that she was ready for the ascent. The pump resumed their labors, and the immense fabric in short time exhibited her full symmetrical propertions, giving evidence that the power of the buoyancy beneuth was far greater than the immense weight above. On the broad level platform of the dock she stood erect, as securely as though resting ipon a rock, and supported by innumerable iron praces; her sea-worn sides and bottom expased to mobstructed light, demanding the labors of the shipwright, the caulker and the copperer. Evilently she had received no strain or injury; her bolts and joints remained unloosened, and even the doors of her state-rooms could be opened and

On the next day I saw the same vessel undocked the simple process of letting the water graally into the tanks. She had been lifted as gently as an infant by its sturdy parent, and with the same gentleness was she replaced in her former cradle, to be rocked again by the swelling waves, or the ferce winds of the ocean.

I would advise these who, like myself, can enjoy he operation of beautiful scientific mechanism, to visit the Sectional Dock at the foot of Rutgers-st., when one of our long steamers, tall merchant ships, or sloops-of-war is about to be raised upon it; and if he should not be fully recompensed for his trouble, I will admit that invention is incapable of affording AN ADMIRER OF MECHANISM.

A man named Frederick R. O'Neal, formerly a soldier in the U. S. army, committed suicide at Savannah, Ga., on the 25th. He took a dose of landanum and went to a neighbor's to tell him what he had done. While talking with him he fell down dead. He was a man of intemperate

IJ A young married man, respectably of nected, has been arrested in New-Orleans and confessed that jewels found in his possession were stolen by him from the grave of a lady buried with her ornaments some years since.

FROM JAMAICA .- By the arrival of the schooner Emily, from Kingston, we have received Jamaica papers to the 10th inst. The session of Parliament was over, the exigencies of the country having been met, and a surplusage of means left, exceeding £60,000, while the planter has been relieved of upwards of £70,000, in the relinguishment of the hereditament tax this year .--The island of Antigua had suffered much from vellow fever. The negroes were quiet, and the Baptists had ceased their intermeddling with the servile population. Two slight shocks of an earthquake had been felt in Antigua. [N. O. Bee, 21st ult.

IF A little boy in Warren County, Miss., was silled on the 14th inst. in the following shocking manner: A keg of powder had been left open in the house, and during a temporary absence of the mother, the child, by some means unknown, communicated a fire-brand to the keg, which blew up

THE NEW WORLD.

A Great Number-2 Splendid Engravings CONTENTS FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4: MY GRANDFATHER'S DREAM; a thrilling Tale, by SHEETDAN KNOWLES, founded on fact. MY DREAM AT HOP-LODGE, by LAMAN BLANCH-

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61 cts. (13) J. WINCHESTER, Publisher, 36 Ann-st. D' BRAITHWAITE'S RETROSPECT OF MEDICINE, No. 1, rill be ready on Saturday, 4th day of February. Orders from Agents, Booksellers, and others, must be accompanied with the cash. All the numbers of this celebrated work no to the present time are now published, viz: Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5. The January No. for 1843 is in press. Medical gentlemen are requested to examine this work. Two numbers GREELEY & MCELRATH, Tribune Buildings, N. Y.

Dersons wishing to send to their friends in the country he Pamphlet containing the full account of the Testimon and Proceedings in the case of the SOMERS TRAGEDY, with Views of the Vessel, Portrait of the Commander, &c. ke, may procure them at this office, in wrappers ready for mailing. Price 12; cents. Twelve copies for one dollar,

The usual formalities having been gone through and the members of the Court and Judge Advocate sworn, Captain Mackenzie was asked whether he had any objections to any of the members, in which he replied "None, whatever." Having the plied that he was ready for trial he was arraigned on the following charges: Charges and Specifications of Charges preferred by the Sto. RETARY OF THE NAVY against ALEXANDER SUBRI-MACKENZIE, a Commander in the United States Nov. CHARGE I.

Ship North Carolina.

All the members being present, the Court orga-

ized vesterday morning at half past 11 o'clock

MURDER ON BOARD A UNITED STATES VESSEL ON THE

Specification 1st. In this that the said Commander Atta

ANDER SLIDELL MACKENZIE, of the Navy, commanding to U. S. brig Somers, being on the High Seas, to wit, it m 34' 25" north latitude and 57° 57' 45" west long tude from Greenwich, or thereabouts, on the 1st day of December, A D. 1342, did then and there, without form of law, milhally deliberately and with malice aforethought, have and comto be banged by the neck at the main yard of the aformation in the was dead Philip Spances, an acting middle. man, then in the service of the United States, thereby relating the 21st article of the act of Congress entitled "At Act for the better government of the Navy of the United States," approved April 23d, 1300.

Specification 2d. Exactly the same as the previous substituting " SAMUEL CROMWELL, BOSTSWEIN'S Mate," the in the service of the United States and borne on the mose roll of said brig for "Pailip Spencer, Acting Midshipma

then in the service of the United States." Specification Sd. - The same as the 2d, substituting " Fire SHA SMALL, Seamen," for SAMUEL CROMWELL, boaisweigt

CHARGE II.

OPPRESSION.

Specification 1st.-In this, that the said Commander Atta-ANDER SLIDELL MACKENZIE, of the Navy, commanding the U. S. Brig Somers, being on the high seas, to wit; in 17036 25" north lat. and 57° 57' 34" west long, from Greenwich, at hereabouts, on the first day of December, 1842, did the and there, without good and sufficient cause, and without form of line, oppressively kill, by hanging and causing to be hanged by the neck at the main yard arm of the aloresaid Brig. PHILIP SPENCER, an acting Midshipman, then in the ar vice of the United States: thereby violating the 34 article of the 1st section of the arti-le of Congress, entitled "An Art for the better government of the Navy of the United States approved April 23, 18.0.

Specification 2d .- Same as the above, with the same alter. ations as in the 24 Specification of the 1st Charge. Specification 3d .- Same as the 2d, with the same alterion as in the 3d Specification of the 1st Charge. CHARGE III.

ILLEGAL PUNISHMENT. Specification 1st .- In this that the said Commander ALEX-NDER SLIDELL MACKENZIE, commanding the U.S. brig Somers, being on the high seas, to wit, in 17° 34' 28" North at and 57° 57' 43" West long. from Greenwich, or thereouts, on the 1st day of December, A. D. 1842, did then and there exceed the limits of his authority, and violate the 3th Article of the Act of Congress entitled " An act for the beer government of the Navy of the United States," approved April 23, 1800, by hanging and causing to be hanged by he neck, to the main-yard-arm of the said brig until he was lead, PHILIP SPENCER, an acting Midshipman then in the service of the United States. Specifications 2d and 3d .- Same as above with the always

ions as in the 2d and 3d Specifications of the 1st Charge. CHARGE IV.

CONDUCT UNBECOMING AN OFFICER. Specification.—In this, that the said Commander ALEXIVER SLIDELL MACKENZIE, commanding the U.S. brig Ser. ers, whilst in lat 170 34' 28" North, and long. 570 57 6 Vest from Greenwick, or thereabouts, did contrary with provisions of Article 52d of the Act of Congress cutilet An act for the better government of the Navy of the Unted State," approved April 23, 1800, on the 1st of December, 1842, behave in an unofficerlike and unfeeling manner by itfressing taunting and unofficerlike language to Page Spencea, an acting Midshipman on board said brig in the service of the United States, the said Spencer then and there expecting the immediate execution of death upon him by the orders of said Commander MACKENZIE.

CHARGE V. CRUELTY AND OPPRESSION.

Specification In this that the said Commander Atta SLIDELL MACKENZIE, of the Navy, commanding the U.S. orig Somers whilst on her last cruise, to wit, between the Soth day of September, 1842, and the 25th day of Decesber, of said year, did appressively and cruelly us and ne treat the crew of said brig, and inflict upon them cruel ad unnecessary punishment, in violation of the 3d article of the 1st section of the Act of Congress, entitled "An Act for its etter government of the Navy of the United States."

Approved, April 23, 1800. A. P. UPSHUR, (Signed) Navy Department, Jan. 23, 1843. Becretary of the Nary. To these charges Commander Mackenzie read

the following plea: I admit that Acting Midshipman Phipip Spances, Bostownin's Mate Samuel Cromwell, and Seaman Elisa

SMALL were put to death by my order, as Commander of the United States brig Somens, at the time and place metioned in the charges; but as under existing circumstance, this act was demanded by duty and justified by necessity, plead Not Guilty to all the charges. ALEX. SLIDELL MACKENZIE,

Commander U. S. N.

Commander Mackenzie then requested permission to be allowed the assistance of Counsel, which was granted, and John Duer and George Griffen, Esqs. took their seats as his Counsel, having been engaged by him.

The Judge Advocate then read the fellowing

As to the fourth charge, the Judge Advocate said he would submit a paper to the Gourt to-morrow, giving his reases for not proceeding to call witnesses as to that charge, and had received the opinion of the Autorney General.

The Judge Advocate then read the lollowing paper, which he stated was drawn up with a view of avoiding ob-

jections hereafter : The Judge Advocate before the examination of estimate egins, desires to state to the Court, that he does regard begins, desires to state to the Court, that he does resident himself as occupying the position of a praseculing law of cer in the civil tribunals. His duty he believes axia to hat which was devoived on the English Judges at the une when traversers were put on trial without the privilege of counsel. A prosecuting officer in the American Configuration of the counsel of the prosecuting officer in the American Configuration of the country of the counsel of the country of to have a favorable feeling towards the defendant, sindato ly uses no more than is absolutely indispensable; betase otherwise he would be prevented from siting their tak-mony by cross-examination or attacking it by way of posite impeachment of characters. impeachment of character, should they bear winess so trary to that he betieves the truth, the principle is-ing that no one shall thus discredit his own witoes. But I must not be made to take a position at all disables. me from extracting the truth of the transaction. I could be a high witness prove the hanging of Midshipanan Spensh seamen Cromwell and Smail by the order of Commander Mackenzie, and close the case: the rule of law being the first the death is shown to be a contracted by the order. sher the death is shown to have occur ed, actually of our structively by the defendant, it is presumed to be made, and it is his duty to prove a minor degree of cininality of mile entire justification or excusability in effecting it. The will be the general course in civil judicatures in order in retain the rights of cross examination and imprachased.

The duty of the Judge Advocate is, as I have stated, up pased to be that of the Loglish Judge in cases without the pased to be that of the English Judge 18 cases when the privilege of counsel, but the Judge's rights were, to ask my ruestion that would be legal from either side. I shall not to pect, therefore, to be restricted by the technical raises

nary presentor. I wish to elicit the whole truth watter favorable or adverse to the deta-dant; and if I do not or tract what legally ought to serve him equally with known counsel, it will be only from inferior capacity, knowledge counsel, it will be only from interior capacity, knowleys, and that sagacity which a partian feeling does only great the same of the same the detendant and kis consect to signify what position would prefer the Judge Advocate to occupy. If I am me to have, without exception, the liberty of an examination in the nature of a cross-examination of my own witnesses. in such cases as my judgement would imply it as security for the attainment of truth, let the detenuant say so, and shall conduct their cause after the manner of a law distribution of the state of the in ordinary cases before a civil tribusal. I shall call sall the witnesses who will make the case against the defended.

This is thought by the Government to be a cate of grid importance, and it is not unlikely that an associate of terry ability and whose capacity has been enabled by at the command the respect of the whose constry, may see now as a coadjutor. In consultation thereof of publication, is shall not proceed in the trial till I am advised when the construction of the Government. A delay very dear such is the design of the Government. A delay very design of the Government, A delay very design of the Government, as I perceive an important point at the outset of this cause, I have not had say that the outset of this cause, I have not had say the contract that the outset of this cause, I have not had say the contract that the outset of this cause, I have not had say the outset of the out

pect, therefore, to be resurriced by the technical rates these particulars and be treated and restrained as an other

portunity from the recency of my appointment, and be difficulty of commanding the use of books when away has one's own office, or thoroughly examining. Mr. Duer then said that Counsel for the defeats agreed with the Judge Advocate that he was not to be regarded as a prosecuting officer, but that his duties were more of a judicial character, and be would not, therefore, be restricted in his examine tion by the same technicalities that a prosecuting

officer would be. The Court was then cleared, the Judge Adver-